

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 2, 6, 7 and 11 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-11 are pending. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. THE OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 11 stands objected to because no reference numbers have been provided. A correction to FIG. 11 has been requested and a replacement figure has been submitted herewith. Therefore, the outstanding drawing objection should be resolved.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objection to the drawings.

III. THE OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The abstract stands objected to for containing the word "disclosed." An amended abstract is submitted herewith.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objection to the abstract.

IV. THE OBJECTION TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 2 and 6-11 stand objected to because of minor informalities.

Claims 2 and 6-11 have been amended to correct the minor informalities indicated in the Office Action.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection of claims 2 and 6-11 be withdrawal.

V. CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

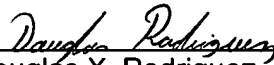
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: August 17, 2004

By: 
Douglas X. Rodriguez
Registration No. 47,269

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501